MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot give the exact date now.

Road surfacing.

417. *MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether any experiments have been made with waste molasses for treating road surfaces; and

(*b*) if the results are satisfactory, whether the waste molasses of the Travancore Sugar Factory can be utilised for road surfacing?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The result was not satisfactory.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): In answer to part (*b*), may I know whether the result of treating road surfaces with waste molasses is generally unsatisfactory or whether the waste molasses of the Travancore Sugar Factory are not good for treating road surfacing?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Generally the result was not satisfactory. During rainy weather, the molasses is washed off the road.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the result of treating road surfaces with waste molasses elsewhere was found a success?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I do not know of any place in British India where it proved a success. But Mysore experimented with this method. The results were satisfactory as long as dry weather conditions obtain. The molasses in Mysore are much cheaper than in Travancore and our experience is that it is not economical to use it on Travancore roads.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): Where was the experiment tried?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Main Southern Road.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kalkulam II*): In what part of that road?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): A few miles from Thuckala.

Malaria in and around Tenmalai.

418. *MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether malaria has broken out in an epidemic form in and around Tenmalai;

(*b*) when it broke out there;

(*c*) the number of cases reported so far and the number of deaths: and

(*d*) the steps taken by Government to combat the epidemic?

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